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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/629,475	07/29/2003	David A. Norman	14489-002003	7465
26231	7590	04/23/2004	EXAMINER	
FISH & RICHARDSON P.C. 5000 BANK ONE CENTER 1717 MAIN STREET DALLAS, TX 75201				MASIH, KAREN
ART UNIT		PAPER NUMBER		
		2837		

DATE MAILED: 04/23/2004

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary	Application No.	Applicant(s)						
	10/629,475	NORMAN ET AL. <i>(Signature)</i>						
	Examiner	Art Unit						
	karen masih	2837						
<i>-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --</i>								
Period for Reply								
<p>A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE <u>3</u> MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication. - If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely. - If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication. - Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b). 								
Status								
<p>1)<input type="checkbox"/> Responsive to communication(s) filed on _____. 2a)<input type="checkbox"/> This action is FINAL. 2b)<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> This action is non-final. 3)<input type="checkbox"/> Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under <i>Ex parte Quayle</i>, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.</p>								
Disposition of Claims <i>40-51, 77-91</i>								
<p>4)<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Claim(s) <u>40-51</u> is/are pending in the application. 4a) Of the above claim(s) <u>40-51</u> is/are withdrawn from consideration. 5)<input type="checkbox"/> Claim(s) <u>77-91</u> is/are allowed. 6)<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Claim(s) <u>77-91</u> is/are rejected. 7)<input type="checkbox"/> Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to. 8)<input type="checkbox"/> Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.</p>								
Application Papers								
<p>9)<input type="checkbox"/> The specification is objected to by the Examiner. 10)<input type="checkbox"/> The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a)<input type="checkbox"/> accepted or b)<input type="checkbox"/> objected to by the Examiner. Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a). Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d). 11)<input type="checkbox"/> The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.</p>								
Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119								
<p>12)<input type="checkbox"/> Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f). a)<input type="checkbox"/> All b)<input type="checkbox"/> Some * c)<input type="checkbox"/> None of: 1.<input type="checkbox"/> Certified copies of the priority documents have been received. 2.<input type="checkbox"/> Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____. 3.<input type="checkbox"/> Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).</p>								
<p>* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.</p>								
 Karen Mash Primary Examiner								
Attachment(s)								
<table style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <tr> <td style="width: 33%;">1)<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)</td> <td style="width: 33%;">4)<input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____</td> </tr> <tr> <td>2)<input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)</td> <td>5)<input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)</td> </tr> <tr> <td>3)<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08) Paper No(s)/Mail Date <u>10-28-03</u>.</td> <td>6)<input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____</td> </tr> </table>			1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)	4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____	2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)	5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)	3) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08) Paper No(s)/Mail Date <u>10-28-03</u> .	6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____
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1. The following is a quotation of the second paragraph of 35 U.S.C. 112:

The specification shall conclude with one or more claims particularly pointing out and distinctly claiming the subject matter which the applicant regards as his invention.

2. Claim 87 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention.

It is not clear what device in line 7 is connected to? Is it same as device in line 2 or different? . Is second radio coupled to the same robot in line 2 or different?

3. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negatived by the manner in which the invention was made.

4. Claims 77-86 and as best can be understood claims 87-91 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Ohya et al in view of Reeley and Hayward et al as cited by applicant.

Ohya et al discloses safety at robot competition, commencing robot competition and providing remote disabling mechanism to disable at least one robot independent of person operating robot, see col 2 lines 45-65 and col 3 lines 5-55. Ohya et al lacks vicinity being 500 ft and plural robots. Reeley discloses 500 feet , see col 10 lines 63. Hayward et al discloses plural robots, see abstract. It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to combine the safety at robot competition of Ohya et al with 500 ft of Reeley for controlling motion and combine the plural robots for mobility and navigation .

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5. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure. Scott discloses robots and 500 feet.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to karen masih whose telephone number is 571-272-2068.

The examiner can normally be reached on m-f 8.30-6.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, david martin can be reached on 571-272-2800 ext 41. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).



karen masih
Primary Examiner
Art Unit 2837

KM